

28. (New) A friendship band as recited in Claim 27, wherein the first material is an elastic material.

29. (New) A friendship band as recited in Claim 28, wherein the first material is selected from the group consisting of elasticized plastics, rubber, plasticized rubber, elasticized fabric materials, and combinations thereof.

30. (New) A friendship band as recited in Claim 27, wherein the second material is an elastic material.

31. (New) A friendship band as recited in Claim 30, wherein the second material is selected from the group consisting of nylon and silk.

32. (New) A friendship band as recited in Claim 30, wherein the closure means includes a first portion that is attached to the first end of the band section and a second portion that is attached to the second end of the band section, and at least one of the first and second closure means portions has a cross-section that is larger than the loop opening of each closed loop member, whereby each closed loop member is elastically expanded to pass over the at least one of the first and second closure means portions so to remove each closed loop member from the friendship band.

33. (New) A friendship band as recited in Claim 27, wherein the indicia included on a portion of an exposed surface of each closed loop member is selected from the group consisting of letters, numbers, insignias, emblems, corporate logos, stars, stripes, hearts, flowers, insects, and animals.

34. (New) A friendship band as recited in Claim 27, wherein the indicia included on a portion of an exposed surface of each closed loop member is embroidered into the exposed surface.

35. (New) A friendship band as recited in Claim 27, wherein each closed loop member is made of fabric material and is joined at a seam line by a mechanism selected from the group consisting of stitches, glue, staples, and laser fusion.

36. (New) A friendship band as recited in Claim 27, wherein the band section and closed loop members are made from the same material.

37. (New) A friendship band as recited in Claim 27, wherein the band section is elongated so the friendship band can be worn as a necklace.

38. (New) A friendship band as recited in Claim 27, further including an outer surface layer enclosing the band section.

39. (New) A friendship band as recited in Claim 38, wherein the outer surface layer is made of material selected from the group consisting of cotton, rayon, nylon, silk, linen, polyester, and combinations thereof.

40. (New) A friendship band as recited in Claim 38, wherein the outer surface layer is joined to the band section proximate the first and second ends by a mechanism selected from the group consisting of stitches, glue, staples, and laser fusion.

Sub 41. (New) A method of using friendship bands, comprising:

- a) providing a first friendship band including a band section having releasable closure means and a plurality of closed loop members each having a first indicia thereon and mounted onto the band section;
- b) opening the closure means of the first friendship band and removing one of the plurality of closed loop members having first indicia thereon;
- c) exchanging the removed one of the plurality of closed loop members with a closed loop member having a second indicia thereon removed from a second friendship band; and
- d) replacing the closed loop member having a second indicia thereon onto the first friendship band and connecting the closure means thereof.

42. (New) A method of using friendship bands, comprising:

- a) providing a first friendship band including a band section having releasable closure means and a plurality of closed loop members each having a first indicia thereon and mounted onto the band section of the first friendship band;
- b) providing a second friendship band including a band section having releasable closure means and a plurality of closed loop members each having a second indicia thereon and mounted onto the band section of the second friendship band;

c) opening the closure means of the first friendship band and removing one of the plurality of closed loop members having first indicia thereon;

d) opening the closure means of the second friendship band and removing one of the plurality of closed loop members having second indicia thereon;

e) replacing the one of the plurality of closed loop members having first indicia thereon onto the band section of the second friendship band and connecting the closure means thereof; and

f) replacing the one of the plurality of closed loop members having second indicia thereon onto the band section of the first friendship band and connecting the closure means thereof.

